

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, LFC, 20467.

Carson Ross, Treasurer Graves for Congress 1100 South 10th Street Tarkio, MO 64491

DEC 6 2000

Identification Number:

C00359034

Reference:

12 Day Pre-Primary Report (7/01/00-7/19/00)

Dear Mr. Ross:

This letter is prompted by the Commission's preliminary review of the report(s) referenced above. The review raised questions concerning certain information contained in the report(s). An itemization follows:

-Your report discloses contribution(s) which appears to be from a corporation (pertinent portion attached). A contribution from a corporation is prohibited by the Act, unless it is made from a separate segregated fund established by the corporation. (2 U.S.C. §441b(a) and 11 CFR §103.3(b))

If the contribution(s) in question was not completely or correctly reported, you should amend your original report with the corrected information. If the contribution is from a corporation, you should refund the full amount to the donor and notify the Commission of such action. The refund must be made within thirty days of the treasurer becoming aware of the impermissibility of the contribution. (11 CFR §103.3(b)(2)) Copies of refund checks for the contribution(s) in question may be used to respond to this letter. The refund should be reported on a Schedule B supporting Line 20(a) of the report covering the period in which the refund is made. (11 CFR §104.8(d)(4))

Although the Commission may take further legal action, prompt action by you to refund the prohibited amount will be considered.

-Commission Regulations require that a committee disclose the identification of all individuals who contribute in excess of \$200 in a calendar year. (11 CFR §104.3(a)(4)(i)) Identification for an individual is defined as the full name, mailing address, occupation and name of employer. (11 CFR §100.12) Your report discloses contributions from individuals for which the identification is not complete.

You must provide the missing information, or if you are unable to do so, you must demonstrate that "best efforts" have been used to obtain the information. To establish "best efforts," you must provide the Commission with a detailed description of your procedures for requesting the information. Establishing "best efforts" is a three-fold process.

First, your original solicitation must include a clear and conspicuous request for the contributor information and must inform the contributor of the requirements of federal law for the reporting of such information. (11 CFR §104.7(b)(1))

Second, if the information is not provided, you must make one follow-up, stand alone effort to obtain this information, regardless of whether the contribution(s) was solicited or not. This effort must occur no later than 30 days after receipt of the contribution and may be in the form of a written request or an oral request documented in writing. (11 CFR § 104.7(b)(2)) The request must:

- clearly ask for the missing information, without soliciting a contribution;
- inform the contributor of the requirements of federal law for the reporting of such information, and
- if the request is written, include a pre-addressed post card or return envelope.

Third, if you receive contributor information after the contribution(s) has been reported, you shall either a) file with your next regularly scheduled report, an amended memo Schedule A listing all the contributions for which additional information was received; or b) file on or before your next regularly scheduled reporting date, amendments to the report(s) originally disclosing the contribution(s). (11 CFR §104.7(b)(4))

Please provide the missing information or a detailed description of your procedures for requesting the information. For more information on

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demonstrating "best efforts," please refer to the Campaign Guide.

-For future reports, please be advised that contributions to other committees or charitable organizations are not operating expenditures. These amounts should be disclosed on Line 21 of the Detailed Summary Page and itemized on a separate Schedule B.

A written response or an amendment to your original report(s) correcting the above problem(s) should be filed with the Federal Election Commission within fifteen (15) days of the date of this letter. If you need assistance, please feel free to contact me on our toll-free number, (800) 424-9530 (at the prompt press 1, then press 2 to reach the Reports Analysis Division). My local number is (202) 694-1130.

Sincerely,

Christopher A. Whyrick

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Reports Analyst

Reports Analysis Division

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